

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 L-02

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 H-02 OMB-01 DIWY-01 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 SIL-01 LAB-04 AGR-05 CU-02 /068 W

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R 240752Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3059

USMISSION GENEVA

USUN NEWYORK 184

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

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PARIS FOR UNESCO, ROME FOR FODAG, VIENNA FOR IAEA & UNIDO,
MONTREAL FOR ICAO

E.O 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, UNDP

SUBJ: CERP 0008 - EVALUATION OF UN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

REF A: STATE 064907

B: BUDAPEST 0741, APRIL 26, 1974

1. SUMMARY: UN SPONSORED PROGRAMS IN HUNGARY CONTINUE TO BE SUCCESSFUL AND RELATED TO NATIONAL NEEDS. A REVIEW OF THE HUNGARIAN COUNTRY PROGRAM WAS HELD LAST FALL AND WAS GENERALLY POSITIVE. ALTHOUGH UN ROLE IN HUNGARY NOT LARGE ITS VARIOUS ORGANS ARE INVOLVED IN SEVERAL PROJECTS INCLUDING: NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY (UNESCO), PILOT ZONES FOR WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT (WHO), STRENGTHENING TRAINING AND RESEARCH OF BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH CENTER (UNESCO), IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE IN THE TISZA RIVER

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VALLEY (FAO), IRRADIATION FOR STERILIZATION OF MEDICAL

SUPPLIES (IAEA), INTERNATIONAL COMPUTER EDUCATION CENTER (UNOTC), DEVELOPMENT OF FISH CULTURE RESEARCH (FAO). ACTIVE UNIDO AND FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS FOR SMALL SCALE PROJECTS ROUND OUT UN ACTIVITIES. THERE IS NO UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE IN BUDAPEST AND, CONSEQUENTLY, LITTLE IN THE WAY OF LOCAL UN COORDINATION OF PROJECTS. END SUMMARY

2. GENERAL COMMENT: IN ANSWERING QUESTIONS SET FORTH IN REF A, TWO POINTS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED (A) HUNGARY'S PER CAPITA INCOME OF APPROX \$2100 PER ANNUM HARDLY LUMPS IT WITH LDCS; (B) THE LACK OF A RESIDENT UNDP REPRESENTATIVE MEANS THAT INCOUNTRY UN COORDINATION OF PROJECTS IS NOT SYSTEMATIC.

3. (QUESTION A) ROLE OF UNDP IN UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM: DR. ALFRED G. DALE, UNDP PROJECT DIRECTOR AT INTERNATIONAL COMPUTER EDUCATION CENTER IS MOST VISIBLE AND INFLUENTIAL UN EXPERT IN HUNGARY WITH WIDE RANGE OF CONTACTS. BUT IN SPITE OF KEEN INTEREST IN OVERALL UN PROGRAM DALE HAS NEITHER MANDATE NOR TIME TO FUNCTION AS UNDP REP. AFTER NEARLY THREE YEARS IN BUDAPEST THIS SUMMER DALE WILL RETURN TO UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AND BE REPLACED BY DR. JOHN BUXTON, A BRITISHER, FROM UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK. UN FIELD SUPPORT GENERALLY GOOD, THOUGH EXPERTS COMPLAIN OF SLOW SALARY PAYMENTS AND VOLUMINOUS ADMINISTRATIVE CHORES. POST AND DALE UNAWARE OF ANY IBRD INPUT, AND THERE IS NO UNICEF PARTICIPATION IN UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAM.

4. (QUESTION B) COORDINATION OF EXTERNAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: N/A

5. (QUESTION C) ROLE OF RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE: N/A

6. (QUESTION D) COUNTRY PROGRAM REVIEW: THE SECOND PERIODIC REVIEW OF HUNGARIAN COUNTRY PROGRAM WAS HELD SEPT 30-OCT 4, 1974, BY HUNGARIAN UNDP JURY AND MEMBERS OF UNDP GENEVA OFFICE. ALL MAJOR PROJECTS WERE VISITED WITH EXCEPTION OF NEWLY SIGNED HUN/71/509 (IRRADIATION FOR STERILIZATION OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES). THE REVIEW PANELS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REPORT WAS PREDICTABLY POSITIVE THOUGH IT CHIDED THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY FOR "GROWING PAINS" WHICH POST UNDERSTANDS CAUSED PRIMARILY BY LOCAL BUREAUCRATIC INFIGHTING. OTHER WEAKNESSES CITED INCLUDED DELAY IN RECRUITING HUNGARIAN STAFF FOR ICEC, DIFFICULTY IN FINDING APPROPRIATE LONG-TERM UN EXPERTS FOR PROJECTS, AND THE GENERAL INEFFICIENCY OF MOST SMALL-SCALE SHORT-TERM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.

7. (QUESTION E) APPRAISAL OF PROPOSED PROGRAMS: THE EMBASSY MAINTAINS CLOSE INFORMAL CONTACT WITH UNDP PERSONNEL RESIDENT IN BUDAPEST. FROM U.S. EXPORT EXPANSION VIEWPOINT POST HAS REPORTED ICEC INTEREST IN NEW COMPUTER PURCHASE USING UNDP FUNDS. REPLY RECEIVED FROM EXPORT CONTROL INDICATES GOOD CHANCE FOR \$250,000 SALE OF U.S. COMPUTER EQUIPMENT IN 1976 (BUDAPEST 0521, 0809, STATE 070964).

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8. (QUESTION F) PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: EXCEPT FOR VARIOUS EXAMPLES CITED IN RESPONSE QUESTION D, MOST PROJECTS RUNNING WELL. PROBLEMS GENERALLY STEM FROM LOCAL MANAGEMENT RATHER THAN FLAWS IN ORIGINAL CONCEPTS. IN ADDITION TO SHOWCASE ICEC, POST FEELS FISH CULTURE RESEARCH PROJECT PARTICULARLY SUCCESSFUL FROM INTERNATIONAL TRAINING STANDPOINT. PROJECT UTILIZING GRASS-EATING CARP

AS MEANS INCREASING PROTEIN PRODUCTION. TRAINING SCHOOL WILL HAVE TWENTY INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND FIVE HUNGARIANS UNDER LEADERSHIP EFFECTIVE HUNGARIAN DIRECTOR. ICEC WHILE VERY SUCCESSFUL FROM HUNGARIAN AND UN VIEWPOINT, HAS VERY MINISCULE PERCENTAGE FOREIGN STUDENTS CAUSING ONE THIRD COUNTRY UN EXPERT TO STATE FOREIGN STUDENT PRESENCE AT ICEC REGARDED BY GOH AS NECESSARY EVIL TO ASSURE ACCESS TO UNDP FUNDS. SAME EXPERT STATES ICEC SUCCESS PRIMARILY DUE TO HARD WORK AND ENTHUSIASM PROJECT DIRECTOR DALE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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9. (QUESTION G) HUNGARY HAS HAD TWO TRIPARTITE REVIEWS WITH THIRD SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN MAY. LOCAL UN OFFICIALS REGARD REVIEWS AS QUITE EFFECTIVE NOT ONLY BECAUSE THEY FORCE CRITICAL LOOK AT PROJECT BUT ALSO DUE TO PROFESSIONALISM OF LEONCE BLOCH, DEPUTY DIRECTOR UNDP EUROPEAN OFFICE. EMBASSY OFFICER PLANS MEET WITH BLOCH DURING VISIT AND WILL REPORT ADDITIONAL COMMENTS IF WARRANTED.

10. (QUESTION H) WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT: NONE OF THE UN PROJECTS IN HUNGARY ARE SPECIFICALLY GEARED TO IMPROVING ROLE OF WOMEN, THOUGH LABOR-POOR HUNGARY PARTIALLY THROUGH CHILD-CARE PROGRAMS DOES BETTER JOB THAN MANY WESTERN COUNTRIES IN MAXIMIZING FEMALE TALENTS. FOR EXAMPLE, AT ICEC, 23 OUT OF 74 LECTURERS ARE WOMEN AS ARE 59 PERCENT OF ALL STUDENTS IN CERTIFICATE COURSES. UN, ON OTHER HAND, HAS ONLY ONE WOMAN EXPERT IN HUNGARY, THOUGH COUNTRY WOULD WELCOME ADDITIONAL EXPERTS.

1. (QUESTION I) FOLLOW-UP: AS INDICATED IN REF B, EMBASSY CONTINUES TO QUESTION HUNGARY'S CREDENTIALS AS DEVELOPING COUNTRY AND WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING BACK-GROUND INFO FROM EPT ON QUALIFICATION CRITERIA FOR UNDP FINANCIAL PROGRAMS. ASSUMING UN SUPPORT FOR ICEC CONTINUES POST SUGGESTS THAT IN FUTURE ANOTHER AMERICAN BE CHOSEN FOR PROJECT DIRECTOR POSITION. COPY OF ICEC ANNUAL REPORT BEING POUCHED DEPT. RESPONSIBLE EMBASSY OFFICER PLANS VISIT ALL MAJOR UN PROJECTS IN COMING YEAR TO ASSIST IN NEXT EVALUATION. MCAULIFFE

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